

IUPUI Research Project To Be Featured At Green Car Conference

For Immediate Release

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(Indianapolis)---A car that has the potential to get 100 miles per gallon will be featured at the Automotive News Green Car Conference being held this week in Novi, Michigan. The car, a Plug in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) is part of a research project now underway at the Richard Lugar Center for Renewable Energy at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.

“Being invited to take part in this national conference on energy efficient transportation is an opportunity to highlight the automotive innovation that is happening in Indiana,” said Brandon Seitz, Director of the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED). “Our state has a heritage of innovation in support of the auto industry.”

The vehicle is a Toyota Prius, a hybrid vehicle that with the addition of new battery and other technologies has been turned into a PHEV, taking its traditional average miles per gallon from around 44 mpg to as much as 100 mpg. Researchers at IUPUI are gathering data on PHEVs, as well as documenting what impact the increased use of this type of vehicle might have on the power grid. The project is being funded through a grant from OED. Partners in the project include Indianapolis Power and Light (IPL), Central Indiana Clean Cities Alliance, OED and the Lugar Center.

The Automotive News Green Car Conference/Exhibition is being held November 13, 2008 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi, Michigan. The conference will bring senior automotive executives together to discuss in depth the challenges, opportunities and trade-offs of reducing the carbon footprints of their vehicles. The conference also offers a product showcase of green vehicles, parts and technology.

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The Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in December 2005 as an extension of the Indiana energy office. Under the leadership of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, OED is responsible for the state’s energy policy. For more information visit www.energy.IN.gov.

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